

July 8, 2014

The Marion County Council held its regularly scheduled meeting, on Tuesday, July 8, 2014 at 9:00 A.M., in the City Council Chambers City Hall, Marion, South Carolina. Members present were Buddy Collins, Chairman; John Q. Atkinson, Jr., Allen W. Floyd, Simon Jenkins, Thomas E. Shaw and Milton W. Troy, II. Also present were G. Timothy Harper, Administrator; Kent M. Williams, Deputy Administrator; Charles L. McLain III, County Attorney; and Sabrina Davis, Clerk to Council. A representative from the Star & Enterprise was not present and duly notified.

Chairman Collins called the meeting to order and asked Councilman Allen W. Floyd to lead the Invocation, after which he welcomed visitors and read the Freedom of Information Announcement.

Motion was made by Mr. Atkinson seconded by Mr. Troy, and carried unanimously, to approve as written, the minutes of the regular meeting held on June 26, 2014.

Motion was made by Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Atkinson, and carried unanimously, to approve as written, the minutes of the Special Called Meeting held on June 30, 2014.

The County Attorney stated that item A. B. C. & D. second and third reading for the ordinance listed on the agenda as follows were ready: A. Second Reading of Ordinance #2014-03 An Ordinance to Authorize the Lease of the Marion County Tax Parcel Number 121-00-00-033-000, more commonly referred to as the Old Marion County Landfill at Ariel Crossroads to Benjie Andrew for the sole purpose of cattle grazing under the terms of the lease attached hereto and made a part hereof, B. First Minutes, July 8, 2014, Page 2

Reading of Ordinance #2014-07 An Ordinance to repeal Ordinance #2014-01; C. First Reading of Ordinance #2014-08 An Ordinance Authorizing the Acceptance of Real Property in Britton's Neck from the Britton's Neck Volunteer Fire Department by way of deed containing an automatic reversion of the real property back to the grantor upon the termination of the term of the Marion County Capital Project Sales Tax; D. First Reading of Ordinance #2014-09 An Ordinance calling for a Referendum to determine whether the South Carolina Department of Revenue may issue temporary permits to allow for the sale of alcoholic beverages for on-premises and off-premises consumption on Sundays in the County of Marion.

The County Attorney told Council that item A. on the agenda; Second Reading of Ordinance #2014-03 An Ordinance to Authorize the Lease of the Marion County Tax Parcel Number 121-00-00-033-000, more commonly referred to as the Old Marion County Landfill at Ariel Crossroads to Benjie Andrew for the sole purpose of cattle grazing under the terms of the lease attached hereto and made a part hereof was ready: The County Attorney presented to Council a copy of the ordinance and the lease agreement. He stated that the amount of payment has not been included in the lease agreement. Motion was made by Mr. Troy, seconded by Mr. Shaw, and carried unanimously, to approve second reading of Ordinance 2014-03.

The County Attorney told Council that item B. on the agenda; First Reading of Ordinance #2014-07 An Ordinance to repeal Ordinance #2014-01 was ready: The County Attorney introduced the title of the ordinance and stated that this constitutes first ready of Ordinance #2014-07.

The County Attorney told Council that item C. on the agenda; First Reading of Ordinance #2014-08 An Ordinance Authorizing the Acceptance of Real Property in Britton's Neck from the Britton's Neck Volunteer Fire Department by way of deed containing an automatic reversion of the real property back to the grantor upon the termination of the term of the Marion County Capital Project Sales Tax was ready: The County Attorney introduced the title of the ordinance and stated that this constitutes first ready of Ordinance #2014-08.

The County Attorney told Council that item D. on the agenda; First Reading of Ordinance #2014-09 An Ordinance calling for a Referendum to determine whether the South Carolina Department of Revenue may issue temporary permits to allow for the sale of alcoholic beverages for on-premises and off-premises consumption on Sundays in the County of Marion was ready: The County Attorney introduced the title of the ordinance and stated that this constitutes first ready of Ordinance #2014-09.

Chairman Collins stated that Committee #1 has a meeting pending.

There was no report given by Committee #2.

The County Attorney provided Council a checklist in reference to the Sunday's sales of alcohol. Mr. McLain told Council that the only major requirement is submitting a referendum to the elections commission at least 60 days prior to the date of the election. He also provided Council a copy of the statute that deals with this said matter.

The County Attorney updated Council on the complaint in reference to a road closure in the southern part of the County. Mr. McLain told Council that an answer has to be submitted referencing the County's official position in regards to the road closure. Mr. McLain asked Council for directions regarding this issue. Mr. Shaw wanted to know the reason for closing the road. Mr. McLain explained that trash has been dumped four wheelers are tearing up the road etc. Mr. McLain mentioned several options on how this situation could be handled. After a brief discussion by members of Council; Motion was made by Mr. Floyd, to adhere to the courts decision regarding this said matter. The motion was seconded by Mr. Atkinson, and carried unanimously.

Councilman Simon Jenkins entered the meeting.

The Administrator had nothing new to report in reference to the New Administration Building.

The Administrator told Council that work has begun on the old Piggly Wiggly Building.

The Administrator updated Council on the Capital Sales Tax. Mr. Harper told Council that the County Attorney has been working with the Britton's Neck Fire Department regarding the lease agreement. He also mentioned that a preconstruction meeting will be held today on the Sellers Community Building.

The Administrator told Council that the County has been awarded an AFG Grant in the amount of \$660,415.00 to replace the portable radios. This regional grant will provide 131 portables, and 52 mobile radios. Mr. Harper stated that there is a 10% match of \$66,041.00. Mr. Harper thanked Senator Williams, Congressman Rice and Senator Graham for their support. He also thanked Mr. Brandon Ellis and Mr. Bill Wallace for assisting with the grant.

Chairman Collins asked Mr. Harper about the grant for the Sheriff's Department to purchase cameras for the patrol cars. Mr. Harpers stated that the grant has been placed on standby.

Mr. Floyd asked Mr. Harper about the communications tower. Mr. Harper stated that the County is waiting on the lease from the City of Mullins.

Mr. Troy thanked Senator Williams for the additional funding in reference to the West Mullins Drainage Project. Mr. Troy stated that there has been a major complaint regarding the open ditches. He stated that work has begun on phase II, which will go across Front Street going towards Three Bridges. Mr. Troy expressed his appreciation to Council for their support over the years. He also thanked Senator Williams for the additional funding that helped this project to move forward.

Chairman Collins brought up the beaver problem throughout the County. Chairman Collins stated that he has spoken with Mr. Leslie Collins about this problem. Chairman Collins stated that Mr. Leslie Collins could trap the beavers at \$40 a head. Mr. Floyd stated that Three Bridges needs to be trapped first. Mr. Harper stated that SCDOT should also be involved to assist with the beaver problem. Mr. Atkinson mentioned Catfish and Smith Swamp. After a lengthy discussion by members of Council; Mr. Troy suggested bringing in the Corp Engineers to assess the situation and come up with a plan to eliminate the problem. He also stated that a comprehensive plan is needed. Mr. Harper told Council that he would get together with Chairman Collins, Senator Williams, Corp Engineers and the SCDOT to discuss this matter further.

Motion was made by Mr. Floyd, seconded by Mr. Atkinson, and carried unanimously, to go into executive session for an economic development matter on project Green Leaf.

Motion was made by Mr. Atkinson, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, and carried unanimously, to close executive session and reopen the regular scheduled meeting. Chairman Collins stated that no action was taken during executive session called for an economic development matter on project Green Leaf.

The Administrator asked Council's approval to allow himself, Dr. Norman, and the County Attorney to negotiate a lease agreement with project Green Leaf on the Wellman Property. Motion was made by Mr. Atkinson, seconded by Mr. Troy, and carried unanimously.

Dr. Norman made an announcement that SOPAKCO in Mullins is hiring. She stated that there are 121 jobs and applications are being accepted online through SCWorks. Dr. Norman stated that the jobs were advertised in the newspaper. She also stated that the job announcements would be made on the radio and TV stations.

Councilman Atkinson had to be excused.

Chairman Collins gave Council an update on the tour of Essex Holding. Chairman Collins stated that he along with Vice Chairperson Smith, Senator Williams, and Dr. Norman toured Essex Holding to see what has been done. Chairman Collins stated that there is a lot of work that has to be done but, the major diaper line has been

installed. He stated that Essex anticipates operating three shifts. Chairman Collins also stated to his understanding within 180 Essex would be hiring.

There being no further business to discuss, motion was made by Mr. Shaw, seconded, by Mr. Jenkins, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:12 A.M.

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Buddy Collins, Chairman

(absent)  
Elista H. Smith Vice Chairperson

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John Q. Atkinson, Jr.

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Allen W. Floyd

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Simon Jenkins, Chaplain

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Thomas E. Shaw

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Milton W. Troy, II

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G. Timothy Harper, Administrator

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Charles L. McLain, III County Attorney

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Sabrina Davis, Clerk to Council